

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 13-19, 21, 24, 26, 27 and 29. The Claim listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application.

Claim Listing

1-12 (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
- in response to one request to retrieve an object, selecting one control node to retrieve the object;
 - retrieving, by the one control node, the object from a storage node;
 - storing the object in a cache at the one control node;
 - in response to a subsequent request, upon determining that the subsequent request is to retrieve the same object as in a prior request, selecting ~~another~~ a different control node; and
 - storing the object in another cache at the ~~another~~ different control node, a number of control nodes each storing a respective copy of the object dependent on the number of requests to retrieve the object.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein:
- the selecting of the one control node and the selecting of the ~~another~~ different control node are accomplished by a level four switch.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein:
- the selecting of the one control node and the selecting of the ~~another~~ different control node are accomplished by a load balancing fabric.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein:
- the one control node and the ~~another~~ different control node comprise distributed object storage managers.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein:
the selecting of the one control node and the selecting of the ~~another~~ different control node are accomplished by a switch that is capable of prioritizing transmission control protocol and user datagram protocol traffic.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein:
the selecting of the one control node and the selecting of the ~~another~~ different control node are based on availability of the one control node and the ~~another~~ different control node, respectively.
19. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
in response to a plurality of requests for retrieval of an object, selecting different control nodes to retrieve the object from a storage node, the selecting being based upon determining that a subsequent request is availability of each of the control nodes to retrieve the same object as in a prior request; and
storing the object in respective caches in the control nodes, a number of control nodes each storing a respective copy of the object dependent on the plurality of requests for retrieval of the object.
20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein:
the selecting is accomplished by a level four switch.
21. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a load balancer to, in response to one request to retrieve an object, select one control node to retrieve the object, the one control node being capable of retrieving the object from a storage node and also being capable of storing the object in a cache at the one control node; and
the load balancer being capable of, in response to a subsequent request, upon determining that it is to retrieve the same object as in a prior request, selecting ~~another~~ a different control node to retrieve the object, the ~~another~~ different control node being

capable of retrieving the object from the storage node and of storing the object in a cache at the ~~another~~ different control node, a number of control nodes each storing a respective copy of the object dependent on the number of requests to retrieve the object.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein:
the load balancer comprises a level four switch.
23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein:
the load balancer comprises a load balancing fabric.
24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein:
the one control node and the ~~another~~ different control node comprise distributed object storage managers.
25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein:
the load balancer comprises a switch that is capable of prioritizing transmission control protocol and user datagram protocol traffic.
26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein:
the load balancer is capable of selecting the one control node and the ~~another~~ different control node based on availability of the one control node and the ~~another~~ different control node, respectively.
27. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a load balancer to, in response to a plurality of requests for retrieval of an object, select different control nodes to retrieve the object from a storage node, the selecting being based upon determining that a subsequent request is ~~availability of each of the control nodes~~ to retrieve the same object as in a prior request; and

each of the control nodes being capable of storing the object in respective caches in the respective control nodes, a number of control nodes each storing a respective copy of the same object dependent on the plurality of requests for retrieval of the object.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, wherein:
the load balancer comprises a level four switch.
29. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
distributing a plurality of requests to retrieve an object amongst a plurality of control nodes by selecting for each of the plurality of the requests a different one of the plurality of control nodes to retrieve the object upon determining that the request is to retrieve the same object as in a prior request;
retrieving, by a control node, the object from a storage node; and
storing the object in a cache at the control node, a number of control nodes each storing a respective copy of the same object dependent on the number of requests to retrieve the object.
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein:
the selecting of the one of the plurality of control nodes is accomplished by a load balancing fabric.
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein:
the control nodes comprise distributed object storage managers.